

Message Text

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14-11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-10 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /075 W

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R 220724Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4496

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USLO PEKING

USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL KRAKOW

AMCONSUL POZNAN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PL, XC, US

SUBJECT: POLISH PRESS ON INDOCHINA

1. THE POLISH MEDIA HAVE LAUDED COMMUNIST SUCCESSES IN CAMBODIA AND VIET-NAM AS HEROIC VICTORIES OF THE "LIBERATION FORCES" AND DEFEATS OF IMPERIALISM. SEVERAL PRESS REPORTS AND COMMENTARIES, DRAWING MOSTLY ON REPORTED DISCUSSION IN THE U.S., HAVE DEPICTED THE FALL OF PHNOM PENH AND REVERSALS IN VIET-NAM AS SERIOUS SETBACKS FOR THE U.S. EDITORIALS SINCE PRESIDENT FORD'S ADDRESS TO CONGRESS APRIL 10 HAVE CAUTIONED AGAINST FURTHER U.S. INVOLVEMENT, DRAWING ON U.S. PRESS ACCOUNTS TO SUGGEST THAT ADMINISTRATION PROPOSALS BASED ON HUMANITARIAN AIMS MIGHT SERVE AS A COVER FOR POSSIBLE MILITARY ACTION. A POPULAR THEME IS TO POINT OUT THAT ALL U.S. EXPENDITURES OF MONEY, MEN, AND MATERIAL HAVE BEEN VAIN.

2. CONCERNING THE IMPACT ON U.S. POLICY, SLOWO POWSZECHNE OBSERVED RECENTLY THAT THE BREAKDOWN OF U.S. "ALLIANCES"

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IN INDOCHINA WILL COMPELL WASHINGTON TO ADAPT ITS POLICIES TO

THIRD WORLD DESIRES FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE.

GLOS PRACY ON APRIL 21 NOTED THAT, ASIDE FROM NUMEROUS SETBACKS, U.S. POLICY HAS REGISTERED IMPORTANT SUCCESSES IN RECENT YEARS, THE MOST IMPORTANT BEING IMPROVED TIES WITH THE SOVIET UNION. THE NEWSPAPER ADDED THAT, BY ADJUSTING ITS POLICY TO THE NEW REALTIES, WASHINGTON COULD FIND A WAY OUT OF ITS CURRENT FOREIGN-POLICY DIFFICULTIES.

3. MOST OF HIS COMMENTARY HAS BEEN ONE-SIDED. IT FAILS TO MENTION HANOI'S MILITARY INVOLVEMENT, IT ARGUES THAT ONLY SAIGON VIOLATED THE PARIS AGREEMENT, AND IT CLAIMS THAT ONLY THE "LIBERATION FORCES" IN VIET-NAM AND CAMBODIA ENJOY POPULAR SUPPORT. BY CONTRAST, A REPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES BY STANISLAW KOSTARSKI, APPEARING IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY APRIL 18, DESCRIBED THE CURRENT WASHINGTON MOOD IN SEEMINGLY OBJECTIVE TERMS, BUT CONCLUDED THAT IT WAS DOUBTFUL CONGRESS WOULD APPROVE THE ADMINISTRATION'S REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AID TO SAIGON OTHER THAN FOR CAREFULLY LIMITED HUMANITARIAN PURPOSES.

3. AN EXCEPTION TO THE RELATIVELY RESTRAINED, THOUGH ONE-SIDED COMMENTARY, IS AN ALLEGATION IN TRYBUNA LUDU AND SLOWO POWSZECNE ON APRIL 18 THAT THE CIA AND PENTAGON INSPIRED AND SUPPORTED THE LON NOL COUP FIVE YEARS AGO.

4. THE QUESTION OF PRINCE SIHANOUK'S FUTURE ROLE HAS BEEN TREATED SOMEWHAT GINBERLY. ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON APRIL 15, CITING SIHANOUK'S OWN STATEMENTS, SUGGESTED HIS ROLE WOULD BE LIMITED TO THAT OF A FIGUREHEAD LEADER OF FOREIGN ENVOY, AND A SUBSEQUENT ZYCIE WARSZAWY EDITORIAL ON CAMBODIA'S FUTURE FAILED TO MENTION SIHANOUK. ON THE OTHER HAND, TRYBUNA LUDU, ON APRIL 19, PROMINENTLY REPORTED COUNCIL OF STATE CHAIRMAN JABLONSKI'S MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO SIHANOUK ON THE "LIBERATION" OF PHNOM PENH.

5. CALLS FOR THIEU'S REMOVAL HAVE CONTINUED. A ZYCIE WARSZAWY EDITORIAL ON APRIL 21 SUGGESTED STRONGLY THAT WASHINGTON WILL SOON DECIDE THAT HIS REMOVAL IS A PREREQUISITE TO ANY PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

DAVIES

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